

PUBLISHED THURSDAY MORNING,
By RUSSELL EATON.
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EZRA H. HOLMES, Editor.

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MAINE FARMER.



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

Time for Grafting.

From this time until bark slips or peels off easily, is the best time for grafting; and if you have any trees that bear hard, sour, crabbed fruit, that is neither fit for man or beast to take into the stomach, off with its head, and put in some variety that is good. In the days of yore, when cider commanded a good price, such trees as we have mentioned might have been profitable; but at the present day they do not pay for the room that they occupy, while good apples, such as will be suitable for the dessert or other culinary purposes, are more profitable than formerly.

The operation of grafting is one very simple in its details, but one that, nevertheless, requires care, judgment and a good eye. The success depends on matching the barks. There are various ways of doing this, but the most common as well as the most simple mode, is called cleft grafting, as represented in the margin. This is done simply by cutting off the stock smooth, split it with a knife, put in a wedge to keep it open, then whittle the end of the scion to a sharp wedge-like



form, and insert it carefully into the cleft, gently drawing out the wedge, and let the sides close up in such a way that the inner barks shall be pressed and united together. There is sometimes danger of the stock gripping the scion too hard, or so hard as to stop the circulation of the sap. If this should be the case, insert a wedge into the other part of the cleft, so as to ease the scion somewhat. After this is done, it will be necessary to cover the parts with something that shall prevent the heat of the sun from drying them too much, or the rains, &c., from getting in and producing decay.

This is done in several ways; one is by plastering it over with a mortar made of clay, with a little loam or sand, and some put in a little fresh cow-dung to render it a little more adhesive and prevent its cracking—around this is wound strips of cloth, rags, or common swinged towed on.

Many prefer this mode to any other, alledging that it keeps the scion cool and moist, and protects it from all the changes of the weather. A more expeditious mode of securing the graft, and one which we have found equally as effectual, is to use the engraver's wax, which is made in different ways. One mode is the following: Take four ounces of common resin, two of beeswax, and one of lard. Melt these together, and when they have become thoroughly incorporated, dip in strips of thin cloth, such as common sheeting, thin calico, &c. The strips, when used, may be torn into strips say an inch or two inches wide, and are wound around the cleft and the scion in such a way as to make them stay put.

We have also used another kind of cement, made by four parts of resin, two of beeswax, a sufficient quantity of fine whiting to give it consistency, and half a pint of linseed oil. By adding oil in larger or smaller quantities, you render it more or less soft, and easily worked by the heat of the hand. This may be placed around the graft in sufficient quantities to support it and to defend it from the weather. We have made a few trials of melted India rubber, which is very adhesive, and keeps out the wet and moisture, but have not had experience enough with it to say whether it is a good or bad application.

We will speak of the other modes of grafting in our next.

Subsoil Plowing.

The time of turning the furrows is upon you, and we hope you are all ready for action. There is one kind of ploughing beginning to be much practiced in many places, called subsoil ploughing. It is done with a plough made for the purpose, without a mould board. This follows immediately behind the first plough, or the plough that turns the furrow, and cracks up the bottom without heaving out the dead earth. In this way you break up and render mellow the soil to a great depth, and in those places where there is a hard and almost impenetrable "pan," it is an excellent operation. In all soils we have no doubt it is a good operation, especially if you wish to plant a crop that has a root, such as the carrot, or a crop that has a root that spreads abroad in every direction, above, below, and all round, like that of Indian corn. We wish those farmers who are able would obtain a subsoil plough, and give it a fair trial, carefully note the result, and let us know more about it. Actual practice is the only way to get at valuable facts, and valuable facts are the foundation of all agriculture.

A NEW HAND IN THE CAMP. We have received the first number of the Agricultural and Horticultural Magazine, published in Cleveland, Ohio, by M. C. YOUNGLOVE, and edited by F. R. ELLIOTT. It is a handsomely printed magazine of 24 pages, and contains engravings of several varieties of fruit. Mr. ELLIOTT is a practical horticulturist, and will make an excellent work of this, if you only give him a chance—that is to say, plenty of subscribers.

MAINE FARMER.

A Family Paper; Devoted to Agriculture, Mechanic Arts, General Intelligence, &c.

VOL. XIII.

AUGUSTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1845.

NO. 16.

ORIGINAL.

An April Fool.

MR. HOLMES—Every body knows that among "Yankees" the practice has obtained of deceiving somebody on the first day of April. Persons in whom the organ of mirthfulness is very large, will often task their wit in devising some scheme by which they may grossly deceive some one, and then follows a "hearty laugh" at his expense.

Now, Mr. Editor, I am not desirous of making "April fools" of any of your readers, but I will just call their attention to a subject of immense importance—I mean manure. Farmer Thrifty's cart is in complete repair, and stands close by the barn door, in readiness to be backed out when the moment arrives that the frost and snow have so far disappeared that materials may be scraped together to add to the manure heap. Farmer Thrifty is seen scraping or digging for materials early in the month of April; and some idle drone, or lounger, who has selected the sunny side of some building, with his knife and pine stick in hand, (Yankees love to *whittle*, and some idle ones would rather whittle than to plow the ground manuring manure,) will point out farmer Thrifty, and call him a fool for thus "making a slave of himself." But this indefatigable farmer will continue to toil on, and he certainly enjoys more pleasure than the idler.

The sluggard Thrifty will not plough by reason of the cold, therefore shall he beg in harvest and have nothing," said the wise man. But Farmer Thrifty has higher motives in view than mere dollars and cents. The production of the largest amount of good to the greatest number possible, is his motto, and who will doubt the fact that real and solid satisfaction is found in virtue. The demagogue, who by *vituperation*, may climb higher and higher in power, may laugh at farmer Thrifty, and call him a fool; but I predict that this *public spirited* farmer will rise to *EMINENCE*—eminence in virtue and usefulness, if not that kind of eminence which might enlist the admiration of the unprincipled political aspirant.

The treatment that has been found most effectual is the following:—Take tar, spirits of turpentine, and a little sulphur, remove the scabs from the diseased part, and apply the mixture with an instrument or spatula of wood twice or three times, or more if necessary.

A CALF A COW. Sheepfoot would say to E. G. B., of North Yarmouth, that, since the publication (three weeks since) of the article relative to a calf that became a mother when but seventeen and a half months old, he has learned another calf story which beats the Yarmouth one at least three months. Mr. DAVID GUILD, of this town, says that he owned a cow, a year or two since, which brought her first calf when but a calf—*before she was THIRTEEN months old!* He says there is no mistake in this; that he is not in an error as to the age, as he had it recorded in words and figures. The publisher of this paper remembers hearing of this remarkable birth at the time it occurred. If North Yarmouth can beat this, we'll give in.

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The Missing Packet Ships.

The Louisville Journal has the following paragraph upon the probable loss of those noble ships:

"All hope of ever again seeing the packet ships United States and England, seems now to be abandoned by the public. The United States has been one hundred and one days at sea, and the England ninety-six.

"There is something peculiarly mournful in such an announcement. These packet ships left the city of New York within a few days of each other, in all their vanity and pride, with crews and passengers full of life and hope. They rode the heaving billows gallantly, and when the land in the blue distance faded away from the vision of those on board, they little thought that it was the last occasion on which they should see the hills and vales of this beautiful earth. And yet it was so. These gallant vessels with their treasure of life, have undoubtedly gone down below the unstable surface of the sea, and are

"In the deep bosom of the ocean buried."

They have passed away from the scenes of this world forever. The places that knew them once shall know them no more. A thousand ties of love, affection and friendship are severed by this calamity. Many an anxious prayer has been sent heavenwards for the welfare of those who have been engulfed. Many a wish for prosperity, health and safety has been wafted over the waste of waters to the voyagers who shall return no more.

Many a wet eye and many a stricken heart have poured out their anguish as visions of the wrecks and their victims have come up vividly before the imaginations of friends. Hope, anxiety and despair have by turns taken possession of the souls of the survivors. Who shall pain the deep and burning agony of mothers, fathers, wives, children, brothers and sisters rest of those dearest to their hearts by this event? In truth it is a perilous thing to dare the wrath of old ocean, when an angry sky is overhead and the wild spirit of the storm is shrieking around you. Heaven help the mariners!

The N. Y. Express says:—We believe the Journal was in error in one particular. The ships had both been spoken, if we recollect aright, day or two out, on their return to this country.

THE DEPARTED AND THE MOURNING. A week had now elapsed; and even the most indifferent—those linked to the dead by no ties of love or kindred—say what such a week is. The darkened windows—the empty rooms, whose very furniture looks unfamiliar in the dim, excluded light—the stealthy steps, the whispering voices—faces with a strange, because necessary, gravity—and whether it be those bowed down with real affliction, or those whose only feeling can be the general awe of death, all differing from their ordinary selves. And, with one of life's most usual, yet most painful contrasts—while the persons are so much engaged, yet the things remain the same. The favorite chair, never to be filled again by its late occupier—the vacant table—a picture, now with more life than its original—the thousand trifles that recall some taste or habit—and all these things so much more deeply felt when no long illness has already thrown events out of their usual circle, already broken in upon old accustomed ways. When she who is now departed amongst us but yesterday—when there has been, as it were, but a step from the fire side to the death bed—a surprise and a shock added to the sorrow which takes us as unawares. And then the common events that fill up the day in domestic life—the provision for the living made in the presence of the dead; in one room a dinner, in the other a coffin—that strange mixture of ordinary occurrence and usual situation. And yet 'tis well. Make that week the gloomiest we can—exclude the day light—silence the human voice and step—and how soon, amid the after-hurry and selfishness of life, will that brief space of mourning be forgotten! There is wisdom in even the exaggeration of grief—there is little cause to fear we should feel too much.

Too Good to be Lost.

We are indebted to the correspondent of the Mobile Register and Journal, for the following sketch of the remarks of Mr. Morrisett of Monroe. A bill was under consideration to charter a Botanical College at Wetumpka—and after several friends of the bill had spoken in its favor, Mr. Morrisett entertained the House by the following effective speech in opposition:

Mr. Speaker—I cannot support this bill, unless I am assured that a distinguished acquaintance of mine is made one of the Professors. He is what that College wishes to make for us, a Root Doctor—and will suit the place exactly. He became a doctor in 2 hours, and it only cost \$20 to complete his education. He bought a book, sir, and read the chapter on fevers and that was enough. He was sent for to see a sick woman, very sick woman. With his book under his arm, off he went. Her husband was in the room with the sick woman—the doctor felt of her wrist and looked in her mouth, then taking off his hat, addressed the husband thus: "Has you got a sorrel sheep?" "No, I never heard of such a thing in all my life." "Well there is such things," said the doctor very knowingly. Has you got, then, a sorrel horse?" "Yes" said John quickly, "I rode him to mill to-day." "Well, he must be killed immediately," said the doctor, "and some soup must be made and given to your wife." The poor woman turned over in her bed, John began to object, and the husband was brought to stand. "Why, doctor, he is the only horse we've got, and he is worth \$100, and will no other soup do as well?" "No the book says so—there is but two questions. Will you kill your horse? or will you let your wife die?" Nothing will save her but the soup of a sorrel sheep or a sorrel horse. If you don't believe me I will read it to you." The doctor took up the book, turned to the chapter on fevers and read as follows: "For fevers—sheep sorrel or horse sorrel." "Why, doctor," exclaimed husband, wife and son, "you are mistaken, that don't mean a sorrel sheep, or a sorrel horse, but—" "Well, I know what I am about," interrupted the doctor, "that's the way we doctors read it and understand it."

Now, said Mr. Morrisett with an earnestness and gravity that were in striking contrast with the laughter of the House, unless the Hon. Speaker and the friends of this bill, will assure me that my sorrel doctor will be one of the Professors, I must vote against the bill.

A poor German relative of Mr. Astor arrived not long since, and applied to the old man for charity. Mr. Astor gave a five dollar bill. "Why," said the discontented relative, "you son just gave ten dollars!" "Well he may," said the millionaire, "the dog has a rich father!"

A Passing Shadow of Life.

Under this head the Philadelphia Gazette records a circumstance that was noticed in that city on Tuesday last, while the ship Thomas P. Cope was dropping off her fastenings to take her departure for Liverpool, having among her steerage passengers, various emigrants returning to the green valleys of their father-land, disappointed in not finding in our country the Eldorado that had been promised them:

Among the passengers was a woman who had no attraction of form and feature to arrest the attention. There was, however, a nervousness or hesitation about her action which induced us to observe her more narrowly. She several times ascended the gangway leading up the ship's side and standing on the gunwale, gazing intently up the street as if awaiting the approach of some one. The order was then given to cast off the ship's fastenings; friends had exchanged their parting greetings and all had descended to the decks—this woman still remained, statue like, with her eyes fixed longingly in the direction indicated. Some of her acquaintances tried to persuade her to get on board; finally she would seem to yield, but her strength of mind would fail her, and she would rush on shore again! The fastenings were loosened, the ship was about to sway off from the dock, when her friends again appealed to her—she again ascended and stood irresolute—there was but a moment to decide—an instant and it would be too late; she threw forward her arms; some acquaintances received her, and with eyes streaming with tears and her head bent backward and turned over her shoulders, to take her last long, lingering look, she disappeared behind the bulwarks, and we saw her no more!

Our curiosity was excited to know the history of her heart's longing, and we therefore made enquiry among those watching the ship's departure. We could glean but an outline of a story: she had a brutal husband whose conduct was so insufferable that some friends about to "return home" advised her to accompany them. She had yielded, but when the hour of separation—perhaps forever—approached, her heart seemed to soften; old memories were re-awakened, the youthful troth, the vows at the altar, and the first endearments of the wedded state, rushed back upon her mind; the husband, who perhaps an inebriate, had ill-treated her, or had forgotten her for another, was her husband still! And in the hope to see him once again, perchance to have him come to her penitent, and ask her to forgive him and remain—she gazed up that long street, until her eye balls were strained almost to cracking—but he came not! Beneath that coarse gown, there beat a woman's bosom; in the recesses of that heart, there was the diamond in the rough of pure female love—generous, long suffering, forgiving and undying! We can imagine the anguish of agony which now overwhelms the poor creature, when the waves of the ocean have cut off all hope of return? May He who comforts the mourner's woes and alleviates the bitterness of sorrow's cup, soothe her with his Holy influence and bring balm to her crushed and wounded spirit!

SETTLING FAMILY QUARRELS. I never knew but one person who interfered between man and wife with safety or success. Upon a domestic *pro* and *con* between the parties, that was rising even to blows, a friend of mine, who happened to be by, hit the husband with his right hand, crying, "Be quiet, you brute," and the woman with her left, saying, "Hold your tongue, you *vixen!*" then repeating his moral admonitions and friendly buffetts, with a "Peace you monst!" "Have you done, you termagant?" "Hands off, you coward!" "Retire, you *virago!*" A fit of shame and laughing seized them both at the same time, at such an extraordinary and impartial comparison. They shook hands immediately, and became good friends the rest of their lives.

THIEF'S CUNNING.—The Buffalo (N. Y.) Gazette, relates that during the fire in that city on the 12th inst., a police officer observed a woman make a great display of hustling an apparent child, which she held snugly to her bosom, enveloped in a cloak. On being questioned by the officer as to what she had there, she replied, "a darling baby, almost froze;" but a peep under the cloak detected a fine roll of dry goods, instead of the "darling baby."

Lake Fisheries. The first combined efforts to render the lake fisheries lucrative were commenced in 1835, when they were prosecuted with some vigor; but after the four years experiment on the part of those who projected the scheme, it was found to be less profitable than expected. A general depreciation of almost every article brought down with it that of fish; and since 1840, although the business has been carried on by individual enterprise, with limited means and no facility to extend it beyond the *Soul*; a very large amount is continually caught and prepared for market. It is somewhat difficult to arrive at the precise quantity annually taken, yet we may approximate it by a little reflection and the acknowledged avidity with which travelers and emigrants generally partake of these delicacies when traversing the lakes.

In 1835, all caught accounted for was 8,000 bbls. valued at \$80,000. The season following, 12,000 bbls. were taken; in 1837, over 14,000 bbls. and in 1840 the aggregate caught reached 32,000 bbls. Of course the last three years within the above period found the value much reduced, and the consumption augmented by the increase and rapid settlement of the lake country. In 1841, at Mackinaw alone, 12,000 were exported, the value of which was \$84,000. The several points which contribute the aggregate of 1840, were as follows:

ON THE MOVE. Despite the snow and rain and mud, our merchants are on the move to Boston, their goods are on the move this way, and the ladies are on the move a-shopping, with their purse full of change to purchase their spring costumes. All are on the move! CALDWELL & CO. have moved, (vide advertisement,) and have got in and opened their new goods, and are now ready to wait upon the fair ones in "the most distressin'est," or rather, "porite" manner imaginable. PIERCE, too, is "in town," not "with a pocket full of rocks," but with a new supply of articles for the ladies and gentlemen. Others, also, have got some of their new things; and such a moving of the ladies, and of the "rags," and of the money, as there will be for a few weeks to come, we opine will make husbands look sour, wives and daughters look gay, and merchants (the money-catchers) as "smiling as May." Who cares? We're *s-i-n-g-i-e!*

TURN HIM OUT. The "clerk of the weather" deserves to be turned out of office, and his station filled by some one not quite so sickle. As near as we can figure, he has of late put the cart before the horse, and substituted March for April, and April for March. Old blustering blowing freezing thawing, dancing, reckless March, has this year turned out to be quite a different being, and has been as gentle, calm and docile as a "sucking dove;" but April! she has been, thus far, not herself, but has "eaten on" like a wild, untamed, untotored, overgrown whirlwind, surcharged with any quantity of wind, rain, snow, sunshine, clouds, and the deuce know not what. Now if the "clerk of the weather" doesn't mend his ways, and mind his P's and Q's a little better for the future, we'll send on to Captain Tyler—no we won't, 'cause he isn't there—but we'll send on to head quarters and have his "apple cart" tipped helter-skelter into the gutter! Yes, we will—so mind your eye, you old mischief-making weathercock!

N. Y. CITY ELECTION.—The election for Mayor took place on Tuesday, which resulted in the choice of the democratic candidate by a large majority.

CONNECTICUT.—The election took place in this State on Monday. The Whigs have carried the State entire, having elected their Governor and four members of Congress, beside a majority in both branches of the Legislature.

AMERICAN FURNITURE IN ENGLAND. There are now but few articles of American manufacture, whether of ornament or utility, which are not exported to England. But furniture, we did not suppose, was sent abroad, when even moderately ambitious folks, here, cannot "begin the world" without something from beyond the water. Messrs. Meeks, cabinet manufacturers, adjoining the Astor House, are constantly sending furniture to England. For months this firm has not been without orders from abroad. It would be no mean ambition for even the English nobility to use articles, such as these gentlemen have in their extensive warehouse, over the beautiful patterns of ornamental work, after the "Elizabethan" style, which is super carved wood.

The reason why furniture is manufactured here at prices which admit of importation into England, notwithstanding the 20 per cent duty, is cheaper here than on the other side of the Atlantic. Then again, it is said that two American mechanics will accomplish more than three English artisans. This is the experience as well as testimony of gentlemen who understand its truth, and no higher compliment could be paid to American skill than the use of New York furniture in the dwellings of the English aristocracy.

Maine Farmer.

AUGUSTA, THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1845.

What will Folks say?

No matter what folks will say. Is it right? That's the question, and none but a slave to the tyrant fashion, would ask any other. And yet how many thousands there are who ask—let what will be the object in view, let what will be the importance or necessity of the case—what will folks say? and govern their actions by the probable answer, rather than by any thing that indicates principle or a regard for the immutable and eternal principles of truth and rectitude.

In the every day occurrences of social life this course of procedure is very common; and we should be glad if it were confined to that class of operations, but we see and hear it very often in agricultural proceedings.

The prosperity enjoyed by the schools, during the past year, has been more than ordinary. There have been more good schools, consequently less poor ones, than usual.

Of the twenty-three schools

which have been taught, eleven by males and twelve

by females, only four or five were poor. Most of

them were good, more than a dozen were very good.

In only one instance has the special attention of

your Committee been requested—we know not that

it has been needed in any other. But much remains

to be done, before the schools can arrive at that de-

gree of prosperity which is attainable.

Good rooms, well furnished, are indispensable to good schools.

No. 4 has set an example worthy of imitation, in

its cost, and the money which they have expended

on their house, will return with more than simple

interest, in less than five years.

Good teachers, also, are indispensable—generally, sufficient care is

not taken in selecting them. Not only good schol-

ars, but persons of judgment, of good common

sense, of good habits, of unyielding integrity, ought

to be employed. Those addicted to profanity, the

use of intoxicating drinks, sabbath breaking, or

games of chance, should be avoided.

An instructor having bad habits, may give exist-

ence to evils, that many of good habits cannot de-

stroy or control. Books of the right kind must be

provided. There have been some deficiencies of

this kind. No scholar can employ his time, or use

his instructor to advantage, without a good supply

of good books.

To have profitable schools, good means for

them must be furnished. Children and

instructors are only two items of them.

Many others are necessary. Parents must take a great inter-

est in them—they must not only see that the means

are provided, but that they are at the service of the

instructor—that their children are constant in their

attendance, and in season—and they ought to visit

the school occasionally. Your Committee are

pleased to know that this has been done to some

extent, during the past year. Let it become a gen-

eral custom, and the children, as well as their in-

structors, would be stimulated to make greater,

if not some extra exertions, to improve.

Without the aid of parents, little can be done.

With their opposition, what would be profitable school with their co-operation, will be worse than useless.

Yet now ready are to find fault, and withdraw their influence, if they do not oppose!

When a shrewd farmer finds in his employ a man that is not very

profitable to him—if he sees that he cannot get rid

of him honorably, till his time is out—instead of

throwing in his way a variety of obstacles, so that

he can do little or nothing, he lends him assistance

very freely, so as to make the best of him.

If this course was more frequently pursued with school

teachers, there would be a less number of poor

schools, and more good ones, and less sectional dif-

ficulties. A combination of the energies of parents,

especially, and of children, of instructors, of friends,

of agents, and of the committee, is necessary, to

make our schools what they ought to be, and what

they can be. Sectional jealousies, party animosities,

or parsimony, should not be suffered to hinder us

in so great and desirable a work.

F. MERRIAM, Superintendent

D. THURSTON, School

The Muse.

The First Robin of Spring.

By JOHN H. WARLAND.

Blithe warbler of the Spring!
Ere the glad earth puts on her robe of green,
And braids her damask tresses, thou art seen
On the old elm to sing.

Oh, whence from the torn,
That in its revelry the forest bowed,
Didst thou betake thee, far from busy crowd,
To hide thy slender form?

Hide from the eye of day,
Didst thou seek shelter in the wood's recess,
Alone, far within the wilderness,
From thy mates away?

Swept by the loud tempest by,
Tearing the feathers from thy shivering breast,
And pelting them thy warm, shivering nest,
On the tame oak—bough high!

Ah! it were vain to say,
Where thou from winter's cold find a home—
But glad I see thee so familiar, come,
And near my window perch.

Yet, in thy winter flight,
His hand did watch and shield from harm thy form,
Who guides the sailor in the ocean storm,
And the bright stars of night.

How many years thy song
Hath pour'd its music on my slumbering hours,
Weston's first breath doth wake the blushing flowers,
Bearing their sweets along.

Ah! now thy strain I hear,
Among thy mates, pour'd from thy warbling throat,
Spring's feathered pioneer!

I love to hear thee sing,
When summer groves are glistening in the dew,
And gleams, in morning's mingling gray and blue,
Thy brown and glossy wing.

Thou callest to thy mate
To perch upon thy favorite breezy tree,
As hosts to heaven thy grateful minstrelsy,
With happy heart sing.

And when the crimson glows
Gaily along the soft and mellow west,
Thou teachest to thy young within their nest,
The song at evening's close.

Oh, sing thy gladnote,
While May her chapter of bright, budding flowers
Weaveth o'er hill and plain; through her green bowers
Let thy sweet music float.

Sing, when the golden light
Gleams in the blushing east at morn—oh sing,
When dew-drops sparkle on such growing thing,
And on thy wings so bright.

Warble thy song, spring bird!
When tinted flower-cups open to the sun—
And the light breezes waft thy music on,
Be thy sweet carol heard!

And when, at eve again,
Lingers the freight air the grove among,
To him who shelters thee, thy vesper song
Chant in one happy strain!

There is that to thee given,
Which teaches man to hymn his Maker's praise,
And his last soul from cares of earth to raise,
To the pure joys of heaven.

The Story Teller.

The Burning Ship.

By THE AUTHOR OF "CRUISING IN THE LAST WAR."

My friend Harry is the happiest of men.—He has the sweetest and most romantic cottage in the vicinity of Philadelphia. It is but nine miles from the city, and near a fine old turnpike, so that a span of blood horses will take you there in forty minutes. His wife is a perfect angel—beautiful, sweet-tempered and loves Harry devotedly. And then a group of such lovely children!

"Did you ever hear how Isabel and I became acquainted?" said he to me, one evening, looking on his wife. "I shook my head in the negative. "Well, then draw your chair closer to the fire and I will tell you." With these words he began.

"It was a night in the tropics. We had been in pursuit of a heavy merchantman, but a fog coming up, she was shut in from our sight, and for more than an hour remained invisible. Suddenly, however, the moon broke forth, and we saw the chase close-hauled, on the very point of escaping us. We instantly made all sail, but the wind was so uncertain that the stranger kept his advantage, the air being comparatively still with us, while he had a respectable breeze. At length it fell a dead calm, the chase being by this time several miles off.

"She could now be seen, lying in liquid flood of moonlight, rising and falling lazily upon the swell, her white sail scarcely moving from the mast, and flashing in the distance like a sea-gull's snowy wing. All at once Captain Drew who had been scrutinizing her through his glass, exclaimed—

"There's something the matter on board there, the men have almost all left her decks, and even those aloft repairing are coming down—what can it be, Mr. Jones?"

"I can't make out, sir—the crew perhaps has mutined, they are running wild hither and thither—so, my God, the ship's on fire!" he ejaculated, as a cloud of thick, black smoke suddenly puffed up her fore-hatchway, followed by a long, vivid stream of fire, that shot up brightly into the midnight sky. We saw at once that the flames must have been raging for some time in the hold; that they had attained an intensity which would defy every effort to subdue them. The eager element shot along the rigging, ran swiftly up the forecastle, and wrapping the hamper in a sheet of fire, streamed almost perpendicularly upward a fathom or two above the truck. There was no breeze, but the undulations of the atmosphere swept the dense smoke to one side, forming, as it were, a gloomy curtain against which the lurid flames shone in terrible relief. Every object on board could now be distinctly seen, and we noticed that all at once the whole crew rushed aft. A signal of distress was next instant shown on the quarter. All this had passed in a moment.

"Lower away the boats—pipe their crews there, boatswain! quick, sir, or the poor wretches will be lost," thundered out the captain. The men hurried to their stations, fired with a sympathy equal to his own.

"Mr. Danforth," he said, "I shall give you the command of the leading boat, spare no effort to reach them in time—but," he continued in a whisper, "mind the magazine."

"Ay, ay, sir," I answered touching my hat, and leaping into the stern sheets I continued, "push off there forward—and now give away with a will, boys—pull!"

At these words the men bent to their oars with the thews of giants, curling the waters in foam beneath our bows, and sending the boats along as if they had been pleasure skiffs.

But swift as was our progress, so that the destroying element was more so. The fire had spread with such frightful rapidity as to wrap up the whole forepart of the ship in

flames, and threaten to consume her before we could arrive. Since it had found vent it had raged with redoubled fury, until now the shrouds, the forecastle, the bowsprit, the yards, everything was sheeted with fire, which, whirling round and round, ascended spirally to the masthead, shooting in forked tongues out on every hand, and streaming like a meteor away up into the calm, blue sky. Meanwhile the flames had broken out in the after hatch, and catching at once to the railine, leaped from rope to rope, ran swiftly up the rigging, spread almost instantly to the huge lower sails hissing, flashing and roaring as they went until at length the whole ship seemed a mass of lurid fire, and nothing was left untouched but the narrow quarter deck, on which the now despairing crew had gathered in crowds, some eagerly endeavoring to lower the only boat that had escaped the flames, some frantically crying out for mercy, some cursing and blaspheming awfully in their agony, and some stretching out their hands imploring for a deck. The boat shot to the side, a dozen arms were extended to receive my burden, I carefully gave it in charge to the nearest, almost slung the old man after, and springing with a bound into the stern sheets, waved my arm, and shouted,

"Shove off—board—give way—and if ever you pulled before, pull now, for your lives, I mean!"

It was obeyed. With one soul they bent their brawny arms to the task, and while the ash almost snapped beneath them, made the boat whirr from the quarter, and then sent her with the velocity of a sea-gull over the deck. Not a word was spoken. The old man sat beside me in the bewilderment of gratitude, astonishment, and only half dissipated fright; while the form of his still inanimate child was extended, unaided, for the moment, by his side. It was indeed no time for delay. Every man knew we were pulling for life or death. The other boat was nearly a mile ahead, skimming along swiftly from the devoted ship. Far off on the moonlit horizon lay our schooner, with all her exquisite tracery reflected in the wave beneath, and seeming with her thin, taper, racing masts like some aerial vessel floating half way between the sea and sky. Down to the right was the burning ship, presenting a vast body of lurid fire, that roared along her sides, streamed out her ports, eddied spirally up the masts, and leaped in large masses straight out into the sky. Now and then, as her guns became heated, they went off with a roar like thunder. Meantime, the dense smoke, gathering in a thick cloud above, hung like a pall over the consuming ship. For some instants, the flames appeared to die in part away; but all at once a stream of intense fire, that almost blinded the eyes, leaped perpendicularly up from the decks; the horizon for miles around was illuminated with a light more vivid than that of the brightest noonday; a part of the forecastle, lifted bodily out, shot like an arrow, almost a cable-length on high; a concussion ensued that made the boat shiver like a reed, and rock a moment frantically about; and then a stunning roar followed, shaking the firmament to its centre, and sounding as if a thousand broadsides had been discharged at once. For a moment, as the burning fragments sailed aloft, falling on every hand about, while the boat rolled wildly to and fro upon the agitated swell, we held our breaths in momentary expectation of death, and I involuntarily ejaculated,

"The Lord have mercy on us all!"

"Amen!" said the rescued father at my side.

But we were again almost miraculously preserved. The offing we had gained, though not sufficient to ensure safety, proved great enough to relieve us from inevitable destruction. Had any of the falling timbers, however, struck us, we should have all gone down together. As it was it was one of the narrowest escapes I ever made, and when I gave the command to the crew to give way again—for that terrible explosion they had as one man paused—a gush of thankfulness and devotion went up from my heart to the great author of my being, who had thus preserved a second time my life.

The cabin was a large one, and fitted up with taste. The decorations were even luxuriant, and such as I had at that time rarely seen in merchantmen. The state rooms were of mahogany, inlaid with ebony, and finished off with the greatest elegance. Curtains apparently of damask, hung around, and the show of silver and cut glass by the companion-way was even brilliant. The cabin, however, was still as death. A lady's glove lay on an Ottoman, and beside it was an open book; but no other traces of a human being were discoverable around. Where could the owner of that small, delicate French glove be? Was she already a victim to the frightful element? had the mate deceived himself in supposing she had been removed from the hold? was there no hope, if she lived, of reaching her in time, to save her from a horrid death? All these questions flashed rapidly across my mind, and my heart sickened as I owned I could not answer them. The danger, meanwhile, grew more and more imminent. I was standing, as it were, above a mine that had been sprung; for should the flames reach the magazine, inevitable destruction must ensue. Nor could that catastrophe be much longer postponed. The devouring element had already gained possession of all round, and even now might be eating its way ravenously toward it. Besides if I paused a moment longer, the fire would reach the companion-way, and all hope of escape from the cabin be cut off. Had it been only my own life that was endangered, I would not have hesitated in periling it to the utmost, but when I remembered that a dozen gallant fellows of my crew, as well as a score of others from the rescued sufferers, would be involved in my fate, I could not doubt as to my duty. These reflections, however, had not occupied more than the instant in which I had been throwing open successively the doors of the various state rooms. Alas! all were empty. With a heavy heart I was about to mount the companion-way, when I noticed that a mass curtain at the further end seemed to divide off a smaller cabin aft the one I was in. Without a moment's delay I rushed toward it, hastily lifted it aside, and there beheld a sight I shall never forget.

This other cabin was much smaller, but far more luxurious than the other. It was adorned with everything that taste could suggest, or wealth afford. Ottomans ran completely around it, forming a kind of divan. At one side was a harp, and beside it some music was scattered on the floor. But after the first hasty survey, I saw nothing but a group of two beings before me. One of them was a grey-haired man, apparently about sixty-four, dressed in the gentlemanly costume of a former day. He was bending wildly over the almost inanimate form of a fair girl, reclining on the cushions. Never had I seen a being who looked more beautiful than that pale, half-fainting creature seemed at that moment. One arm supported her on the divan, and the other was thrown around her father's neck, the blue veins just discernible as they stole along beneath the ivory skin. Her head rested on the bosom of her parent, and the hair, loose and unbound, streamed in dark, glossy ringlets over her snowy shoulders. At the noise made by my entrance she started, raised her head, and I could see thro' the tears that glistened on her lashes, one of the sweetest hazel eyes that I had ever looked upon. A quick flash shot over her face, crimsoned it like a rose-leaf as she beheld a stranger; and half starting to her feet, she essayed a moment to speak, and then stood with half open lips gazing almost wildly upon me.

"For God's sake fly," I cried, "the ship is on fire in every part—we can barely escape by the companion-way—in another instant she will blow up—why hesitate? For Heaven's sake come."

"Oh, sir, God bless you for this kindness—there is then hope," exclaimed the old man—but Isabel has fainted," he continued—"go fly,

A Story for Youth.

When John was about thirteen years old he left his paternal roof, in the north of New Jersey, and went to Philadelphia to learn a trade. He entered as an apprentice with his brother, a coachmaker in the northern part of the city. On a certain occasion he was sent to a drug store for half a gallon of oil. He had frequently been sent on a similar errand, and had been accustomed to pay twenty-five cents for the oil. But it happened that oil had fallen, and the price was now only twenty cents. He had taken with him to pay for the oil, a one dollar note, and having obtained the article, he presented the note, and received in change—not as he expected, three quarters of a dollar—but four pistareens, of the value of twenty cents. John, who was ignorant of their value, supposed that they were quarters of a dollar, and that the druggist had given him four instead of three.

He had been taught, when a child, to be honest. He knew that he ought to do to others as he would have others to do to him; and that it was dishonest to take advantage of another's mistake, to take what was not his own, as to cheat in any other way. His first impulse, therefore, was to return one of the pieces to the man; but before he had a chance to carry out his feeling into practice, Satan and the evil in his own heart tempted him; the thought occurred that he would give three of them to his brother, as the right change, and keep the fourth for himself. He closed his hand upon the money, took up the jug and left the store.

The jug in which he carried the oil had no handle, and he had to carry it by a string tied round the neck. This so cut his finger that, after changing it from one hand to the other several times, he was compelled to stop at the distance of a square and rest, which he did at the first and second corner, doubtless at each time whether to go forward or to return. He stood one moment and determined to leave.

The next corner brought John a third time to a stand. Rest relieved the smartings of his hand, but the cuttings of his conscience were not so easily prevented. He meditated some minutes. Conscience now became urgent in its demands. But he was ashamed to go back. He wished he had obeyed his first honest impulse. He felt very unhappy, but he must not delay. He had already been a good while about his errand. He took up his jug. He was undecided whether to go forward or to return. He stood one moment and determined to return.

It was a hard task to trudge back three long squares with a heavy jug without a handle, and more than once he had almost determined to give up his honest resolution. But he persevered, reached the store and sat down his load. "You have given me too much change," said he, presenting the four pistareens to Mr. W—; "you have given me four quarters dollars instead of three." "You have the right change," said Mr. W—, "the oil is 20 cents, and those four pieces are not quarter dollars, they are twenty cent pieces. Here is a quarter," continued the benevolent store keeper, "which I will give you. You can notice the difference between them as you go home; and let me advise you always to deal as honestly as you have to-day."

Who can imagine the feelings of the boy, when he saw the true state of the matter; and he knew in an instant that, had he persevered in his sinful project, he must, from the very nature of the circumstances, have been discovered!

"Had I carried out my first intentions," said he to me, when he related the anecdote, "I should have handed my brother three of the pistareens. He would of course have asked me for the balance, and I should have been driven to add falsehood to my crime, by saying that was all he gave me. In all probability should have been detected, and sent back to my father in disgrace. It would have stamped my character with dishonesty, from which I might never have recovered." As it was, he picked up his jug, and, with a light heart and rapid step, proceeded up the street. He was so rejoiced at the happy result, and so thankful for his preservation, that he set out on the run, and did not feel the sting cut his fingers. During thirty-five years that he lived after this event, he never forgot the lesson that it taught him; he became a most excellent man and true Christian, and throughout his life, in private business and public office, ever acted under the firm conviction that "honesty is the best policy."

[T. D. James.

A BEAUTIFUL IDEA. At a late public meeting in New York, says the Telegraph, the Rev. J. Spaulding dwelt a few moments on the beauties of the steam engine, and all the various improvements of the age. To facilitate the general introduction of this important accession to the farming interest, it is proposed to sell the method to companies at reduced prices, in each separate town, with special privileges as extra inducements for its speedy adoption, in every place, where manure is appreciated. Numerous companies have already been formed in different states, and many more are to be formed. It is intended, as soon as practicable, to employ companies to sell the method, for the completion of this object. Ezekiel Hoole, Esq., has been appointed agent for Cumberland County, and Samuel Dean, Esq., for the County of Lincoln, in the State of Maine. Only qualified persons, who may secure the agency for other counties, will find the employment useful and lucrative. Communications to me, must be post paid, and directed to me, at Westville, New Haven County, Connecticut.

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A BEAUTIFUL IDEA. At a late public meeting in New York, says the Telegraph, the Rev. J. Spaulding dwelt a few moments on the beauties of the steam engine, and all the various improvements of the age. To facilitate the general introduction of this important accession to the farming interest, it is proposed to sell the method to companies at reduced prices, in each separate town, with special privileges as extra inducements for its speedy adoption, in every place, where manure is appreciated. Numerous companies have already been formed in different states, and many more are to be formed. It is intended, as soon as practicable, to employ companies to sell the method, for the completion of this object. Ezekiel Hoole, Esq., has been appointed agent for Cumberland County, and Samuel Dean, Esq., for the County of Lincoln, in the State of Maine. Only qualified persons, who may secure the agency for other counties, will find the employment useful and lucrative. Communications to me, must be post paid, and directed to me, at Westville, New Haven County, Connecticut.

To the Hon. W. Emmons, Judge of Probate, in and for the County of Kennebec.

THE petition and representation of SAMUEL B. SHAW, Guardian of MARY W. SHAW, of Windthrop, in said County, minor, respectfully represents that the said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in Windthrop, called the Amasa Wood farm, consisting of two and one-half acres of land. One acre is bounded on the east by the pond; on the south by land of Simon Chase and Benj. Perkins; on the west by land of Moses Bailey; and on the north by land of John Packard. The other pieces bounded on the north by lands of said Chase and Perkins; on the east by Mr. Sampson; and on the south and west by land of Oliver Foster. All which farm is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a parcel of land situated in the centre of the said farm, consisting of one acre and one-half, bounded on the north by land of Oliver Foster. All which land is described in a deed from Amasa Wood to Oren Shaw, dated Dec. 3, 1842, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds in said County, vol. 12, p. 480. The said minor is interested in a